State of Palestine
Ministry of Health
Minister's Office

دولـــة فـلسـطين
وزارة الصحة
مكتب الوزير

Updated Report: 18 December 2024

439 days of the Israeli aggression against Gaza

Daily Report on the Effects of the Israeli Aggression in Palestine

Catastrophic situation in numbers; the deadliest year for Palestinians

From October 7th until December 18th, 2024

Some of the information contained in this report is as of Tuesday evening, 17 December 2024.

The Emergency Operations Center at the Ministry of Health in Ramallah supervises the data collection process through its offices in Gaza. Numbers are updated every 24 hours. These numbers reflect confirmed statistics only but do not necessarily reflect all victims due to the fact that many victims are still missing under the rubble.

The escalating atrocities in Palestine because of Israeli occupation aggression surpass mere numerical reporting, constituting severe violations of all human rights. The health system is deliberately targeted, amounting to genocide on the Palestinian people. This insufferable situation demands immediate intervention. We call upon all international humanitarian and health organizations to urgently enter Gaza, ensuring protection for health workers, facilities, and civilians. Tangible advocacy and pressure for an immediate ceasefire and an end to the ongoing siege on Gaza is imperative to halt this humanitarian crisis.[1][2][3]

Overview:

- Based on data from the Emergency Operations Center in Gaza, as of December 18th 2024, the total number of martyrs killed by the Israeli occupation forces in the Gaza Strip since October 7, 2023, is as follows:
- **Total number of martyrs: 45,097**
- Martyrs with complete data as of December 11, 2024: **43,587**
- Martyrs with incomplete data as of December 11, 2024: **1,248**
- Child martyrs with complete data as of October 7, 2024: **13,319**
- Woman martyrs with complete data as of October 7, 2024: **7,216**
- Elderly martyrs with complete data as of October 7, 2024: **3,447**
- ***It is important to note that martyrs with incomplete data are those whose full details have not been fully recorded. This data includes: (full name, ID number, sex, date, and place of martyrdom). Any new information related to these martyrs, once fully entered, will be counted among the martyrs with complete data and classified accordingly into categories of women and children.**
- The total number of martyrs does not include the number of missing persons or under rubble, which has reached approximately **10,000** as of the date of the report.

[1] https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2023/11/gaza-un-experts-call-international-community-prevent-genocide-against
[2] https://www.un.org/unispal/document/gaza-un-experts-decry-bombing-of-hospitals-and-schools-as-crimes-against-humanity-call-for-prevention-of-genocide/
[3] https://www.icj-cij.org/sites/default/files/case-related/192/192-20231229-pre-01-00-en.pdf?fbclid=PAAaanjzZcW1N3X8xUa5n2vOtSmJXRZGtuX25ee7DicJ6lvDv9355FU9Nco_w_aem_Af1J7V-j8tYZ0pM_D1CQooNZ6b2tctzS9pzFrRP92oaCO9tBVKTDkMB8DYqdS1aGUDk

- Additionally, about **107,250** Palestinians have been injured, many of whom are suffering from severe trauma and life-threatening conditions.
- Israeli occupation forces continue their attacks on civilian infrastructure, especially in northern Gaza, where reports from the World Health Organization indicate appalling conditions at Kamal Adwan Hospital.
- Humanitarian organizations are struggling to meet the growing shelter needs amid repeated displacements, with limited entry of shelter supplies.
- Women are severely affected by the scarcity of diagnostic tests and essential medical treatments, often facing delayed or inadequate care.
- Recently, approximately 5,500 people were forcibly displaced from three schools in Beit Lahia.
- Fewer than 400 patients have been allowed to leave the Gaza Strip for life-saving medical treatment over the past seven months, while approximately 14,000 others are still waiting for approval to exit.
- The Israeli occupation forces have prevented life-saving aid from reaching besieged areas in North Gaza for the past 66 days.
- it is estimated that 26,000 Palestinians have sustained life-altering injuries over the past 14 months. People with disabilities continue to suffer significantly due to severe trauma, lack of rehabilitation services, and limited availability of assistive devices.
- Severe shortages of medical supplies and consumables are undermining the provision of basic health care across the Gaza Strip, with UNRWA warning that at least 60 drugs will be depleted in its health facilities by the end of the year.
- With the onset of winter, more than 1.6 million people are living in temporary shelters, about half a million of whom live in areas exposed to the risk of flooding, and they are in dire need of suitable living spaces.
- Access to health care across Gaza remains precarious, with UNFPA partners reporting a recent increase in premature births and maternal deaths.
- Only 17 of Gaza's 36 hospitals are functional, all of them partially, facing critical shortages.
- The World Food Programme (WFP) calls for the immediate opening of all access points, emphasizing that its ability to support people in need is deteriorating.
- Health and environmental risks are on the rise due to fuel shortages, limited access to clean water, sewage overflow, accumulation of solid waste, and infrastructural damage, UNRWA and partners warn.
- The volume of medical supplies entering Gaza is insufficient to sustain the health response and all medical evacuations outside Gaza remain halted, warns the World Health Organization.

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Forced Displacement:

- Between 100,000 and 130,000 people have been displaced from northern Gaza amid the escalation of the Israeli occupation's aggression.
- Israeli bombardment from the air, land, and sea continues to be reported across much of the Gaza Strip, resulting in further civilian casualties, displacement, and destruction of houses and other civilian infrastructure.
- An estimated 85% of Gaza's population, around 1.93 million individuals, have been forcibly displaced.

Healthcare Access and Challenges:

- Efforts to scale up assistance are hampered by limited access and ongoing security challenges.
- Critical shortages of medical personnel and supplies, including anesthesia and antibiotics, are leaving healthcare workers struggling to save lives.

Public Health Crisis:

- Gaza faces a public health catastrophe due to unsafe water resources, overcrowding, and lack of basic hygiene needs.
- The lack of safe drinking water exposes civilians to waterborne diseases and dehydration.
- Dire water and sanitation conditions, coupled with overcrowding, have led to a surge in preventable illnesses and premature death.

Infrastructure Damage:

- Sewage overflow and waste accumulation in the streets and around shelters for IDPs pose significant public health risks.
- The lack of fuel further exacerbates the situation, hindering the functionality of essential services and necessitating urgent international support.

Recorded Attacks on Health Facilities and Personnel:

- **1057** personnel were martyred in the health sector, more than 310 were arrested by the Israeli occupying forces, Hundreds were injured and 130 ambulances were destroyed by the occupying forces.
- Deliberate targeting of medical infrastructure has left civilians without access to essential healthcare services.

Situation in the West Bank:

- Since 7 October 2023, **816** Palestinians, including **168** children, have been martyred, and more than **6,500** have been injured across the West Bank and Jerusalem.
- WHO reports over 600 attacks on healthcare facilities and personnel in the West Bank since October 7, 2023.

- The Israeli occupation's intensified movement restrictions have further exacerbated the humanitarian crisis in the West Bank, limiting access to essential healthcare services for the population. The widespread displacement of Palestinians, coupled with the destruction of residential structures and infrastructure, has left thousands without access to basic necessities and exposed them to heightened risks of disease, injury, and death.

Urgent Needs:

- Immediate cessation of Israeli aggression to prevent further loss of life.
- Implementation of international humanitarian laws to protect health institutions and civilians.
- Unconditional entry of humanitarian supplies into Gaza to address critical shortages.
- Assistance in evacuating the wounded for lifesaving medical care abroad.
- Halting forcible displacement of civilians and supporting search and rescue operations.

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